

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. (Currently amended) An automated method of settling a loan transaction between at least a buyer and a seller by use of a computer system, in which each user of the system is pre-registered with a secure designation and credit information, comprising the steps of:
  - (a) obtaining from the buyer and seller inventory reports;
  - (b) providing trade data;
  - (c) providing an electronic trade ticket having the trade data thereon;
  - (d) inputting into the computer system the electronic trade ticket including the trade data;
  - (e) reviewing the trade ticket data;
  - (f) providing a trade confirmation creator;
  - (g) preparing a trade confirmation document, through the trade confirmation creator, including using the trade data and adding information, if necessary;
  - (h) providing the trade confirmation document to the buyer and the seller by e-mail for review by them of the trade confirmation document;
  - (i) revising, if necessary, the trade confirmation document, based upon comments from the buyer and seller;
  - (j) adjusting the data relating to the transaction to the buyer's and seller's inventory reports for the credit information of each;

(k) arranging for signing of said trade confirmation document by said buyer and said seller; and

(l) producing and arranging for signing of an assignment and acceptance agreement and a funding memorandum, based upon a finalized trade confirmation document, in order to settle the transaction.

2. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein following said step of revising the trade confirmation document, re-submitting the trade confirmation document to the buyer and seller for review if any changes were made to the trade confirmation.

3. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein in said step of adding to the buyer's and seller's inventory reports, performing said step just prior to the step of producing and arranging for signing of an assignment and acceptance agreement and a funding memorandum, in order to revise the funding memorandum, if necessary.

4. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein, following said step of producing and arranging for signing of an assignment and acceptance agreement and a funding memorandum, notifying the buyer and seller of the effectiveness and settlement of the transaction.

5. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 4 wherein, following said step of notifying the buyer and seller, receiving payment from the buyer.

6. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein, said step of receiving payment said step of adjusting the inventory reports of the buyer and seller is performed.